GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:827
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2004
SUBSIDY TO SOLAR ENERGY USERS
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide subsidy to the users of solar energy in the country directly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to promote the use of solar energy; and

(d) the amount of central grants sanctioned to each State, particularly to Kerala for the development of solar energy during the last three years ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a)&(b): To promote the use of solar energy, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has been providing subsidy to the users of solar lights, solar pumps and solar photovoltaic power plants through their respective State Renewable Energy Development Agencies. For solar water heaters, users can avail soft loans from a few designated banks and Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency under an Interest Subsidy Scheme of the Ministry. The quantum of Central subsidy in case of solar photovoltaic systems varies from system-to-system. It is about 90% in the Special Category States and about 50% in other States. The interest rates on the soft loans for solar thermal systems are 5% and 7% per annum for the individuals and commercial organizations, respectively.

(c): Apart from providing direct subsidy / interest subsidy and grant for publicity and promotional efforts, the other incentives being provided for wide spread use of solar energy include accelerated depreciation under the income tax law, exemption of central sales tax, excise duty and rebate in electricity bills offered by some electricity boards for use of solar water heating systems. Support is also being provided under the R&D programme of the Ministry for development of more reliable and cost effective products.

(d): The grants sanctioned to each State including Kerala for development of solar energy are shown in Annexure.

Annexure referred to in reply Part (d) of the Lok Sabha Untarred Question No. 827 for 13.7.2004 regarding Subsidy to Solar Energy users.

STATE-WISE RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR SOLAR ENERGY PROGRAMMES DURING 2001-2002, 2002-2003 AND 2003-2004

Sl.No. State/Union Territory Funds Released (Rupees in Lakhs)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-2004
1.	Andhra Pradesh	286.67	348.77	38.76
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.53	151.69	174.59
3.	Assam	1.26	89.50	336.70
4.	Bihar	0.33	4.00	1.37
5.	Chhattisgarh	249.70	629.17	417.66
6.	Delhi	0.76	17.88	6.59
7	Goa	0.00	0.00	18.63

8. Gujarat 87.43 306.06 85.94

9. Haryana 233.44 523.44 292.05
10. Himachal Pradesh 135.44 120.91 112.63
11. Jammu & Kashmir 772.06 715.83 648.50
12. Jharkhand 3.41 133.98 1057.93
13. Karnataka 115.15 125.45 247.67
14. Kerala 851.10 38.82 35.16
15. Madhya Pradesh 34.53 112.25 16.38
16. Maharashtra 46.09 29.12 331.48
17. Manipur 44.75 738.23 241.53
18. Meghalaya 9.68 340.92 43.32
19. Mizoram 19.95 57.33 308.51
20. Nagaland 0.00 0.80 1.80
21. Orissa 65.00 0.00
22. Punjab 650.56 1043.57 1546.23
23. Rajasthan 592.25 667.98 560.19
24. Sikkim 36.92 20.90 40.56
25. Tamil Nadu 55.50 73.75 1917.49
26. Tripura 205.80 399.09 954.56
27. Uttar Pradesh 794.62 747.50 1970.73
28. Uttaranchal 261.37 587.19 1126.10
29. West Bengal 793.44 688.04 2787.26
30. A & N Islands 66.00 88.93 -
31. Chandigarh 13.94 12.71 16.89
32. Lakshadweep Islands 572.49 392.00 -
33. Pondicherry 3.78 14.94 4.10
34. Others - - 140.45